

CLAIMS

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1. A method for providing configurable access to media in a media-on-demand system comprising the steps of:
 3. delivering the media to a first client device through a first communications link;
 4. recording a bookmark specifying a position in the media; and
 5. delivering the media to a second client device through a second communications link, said delivery to said second client device beginning at said position specified by
 6. said recorded bookmark.
1. 2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 2. identifying device properties for each of said first and second client devices; and,
 3. delivering the media to said first and second client devices through said
 4. respectively established first and second communications links, the media delivered in
 5. a format compatible with said identified device properties.
1. 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the media is stored in a media-on-demand server (MODS) and delivered to said first and said second client devices via
2. said first and said second communications link respectively.
1. 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said step of delivering the media to said
2. first client device via said first communications link, comprises:
 3. receiving the media from said MODS in an intermediate server;
 4. in said intermediate server, converting the media to a format compatible with
 5. said identified device properties of said first client device; and
 6. delivering said converted media to said first client device via said first
 7. communications link.

1 5. The method according to claim 3, wherein said step of delivering the media to a
2 second client device via said second communications link, comprises:
3 receiving the media in an intermediate server from said MODS;
4 in said intermediate server, converting the media to a format compatible with
5 said identified device properties of said second client device; and
6 delivering said converted media to said second client device via said second
7 communications link.

1 6. The method according claim 3, further comprising:
2 storing the media in selected ones of a plurality of media-on-demand servers,
3 each MODS in said plurality of media-on-demand servers storing the media in at least
4 one format compatible with a selected device type;
5 selecting a MODS for delivering the media to said first client device, said
6 selected MODS having stored thereon the media in a format compatible with said first
7 client device; and
8 delivering from said selected MODS the media in a format compatible with said
9 first client device.

1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein said selecting step further comprises:
2 determining if a MODS is available for delivering the media to said first client
3 device in a format compatible with said first client device;
4 if it is determined that a MODS is not available for delivering the media to said
5 first client device in a format compatible with said first client device, selecting a MODS
6 for delivering the media to said first client device, said selected MODS containing the
7 media in a standard format, and converting the media in said standard format to a
8 format compatible with said first client device.

1 8. The method according claim 3, further comprising:
2 storing the media in selected ones of a plurality of media-on-demand servers,
3 each MODS in said plurality of media-on-demand servers storing the media in at least
4 one format compatible with a selected device type;

5 selecting a MODS for delivering the media to said second client device, said
6 selected MODS having stored thereon the media in a format compatible with said
7 second client device; and

8 delivering from said selected MODS the media in a format compatible with said
9 second client device.

1 9. The method according to claim 8, wherein said selecting step further comprises:
2 determining if a MODS is available for delivering the media to said second client
3 device in a format compatible with said second client device;

4 if it is determined that a MODS is not available for delivering the media to said
5 second client device in a format compatible with said second client device, selecting a
6 MODS for delivering the media to said second client device, said selected MODS
7 containing the media in a standard format, and converting the media in said standard
8 format to a format compatible with said second client device.

1 10. A user-controlled media-on-demand system comprising:

2 a media-on-demand server (MODS) for delivering media to client device
3 sessions;

4 a first communications link between said MODS and a first client device session;
5 a second communications link between said MODS and a second client device
6 session; and,

7 a bookmark in said MODS specifying a position in said delivered media;
8 said MODS delivering media to said first client device session over said first

9 communications link;

10 said MODS delivering said media to said second client device session over said
11 second communications link beginning at said position specified by said bookmark.

1 11. The system according claim 10, wherein said first and second client device
2 sessions reside in first and second client devices respectively.

1 12. The system according claim 10, wherein said first and second client device
2 sessions reside in a single client device.

1 13. The system according claim 11, further comprising:

2 an intermediate server disposed between said MODS and said first and second
3 client devices;

4 said intermediate server receiving said delivered media from said MODS;

5 said intermediate server identifying device properties for each of said client
6 devices;

7 said intermediate server converting said delivered media to a media format
8 compatible with said identified device properties for each client device; and

9 said intermediate server delivering said converted media to said client devices.

1 14. The system according claim 12, further comprising:

2 an intermediate server disposed between said MODS and said single client
3 device;

4 said intermediate server receiving said delivered media from said MODS;

5 said intermediate server identifying device properties for said single client device;

6 said intermediate server converting said delivered media to a media format
7 compatible with said identified device properties for said single client device; and

8 said intermediate server delivering said converted media to said single client
9 device.

1 15. The system according to claim 10, further comprising:

2 a plurality of media-on-demand servers, each said MODS in said plurality of
3 media-on-demand servers storing media in at least one format compatible with specific
4 device properties; and,

5 an intermediate server;

6 said intermediate server identifying device properties of a client device
7 containing a client device session;

8 said intermediate server selecting a MODS in said plurality of media-on-demand
9 servers for delivering said media to said client device;

10 said selected MODS storing said media in a format compatible with said
11 identified device properties;

12 said selected MODS delivering said media to said client device in said format
13 compatible with said identified device properties.

14 16. The system according claim 15, further comprising:

15 a backup MODS for storing media in a standard format; and,

16 a conversion filter in said intermediate server;

17 said intermediate server determining if a MODS in said plurality of media-on-
18 demand servers is available for delivering said media to a client device in a format
19 compatible with said client device;

20 said intermediate server selecting said backup MODS if it is determined that no
21 MODS is available for delivering media to said client device in a format compatible with
22 said client device;

23 said backup MODS delivering said media to said intermediate server in said

11 ~~standard format,~~

12 said intermediate server converting said media to a format compatible with said
13 client device in said conversion filter.

1 17. A method for providing configurable access to media in a media-on-demand
2 system comprising:

3 delivering the media to a first client device in a format compatible with said first
4 client device;

5 interrupting said delivery of said media;

6 recording a bookmark specifying a position in the media when said interruption
7 occurred; and

8 resuming delivery of the media to a second client device, said resumed delivery
9 beginning at a position in the media specified by said recorded bookmark.

10 18. The method according to claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

11 identifying a device type for each of said first and second client devices;

12 delivering the media to said first client device in a format compatible with said
13 identified device type for said first client device; and,

14 delivering the media to said second client device in a format compatible with said
15 identified device type for said second client device.

16 19. A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having
17 a plurality of code sections for providing configurable access to media in a media-on-
18 demand system, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine
19 to perform the steps of:

20 delivering the media to a first client device in a format compatible with said first
21 client device;

interrupting said delivery of said media;

recording a bookmark specifying a position in the media where said interruption occurred; and

resuming delivery of the media to a second client device, said resumed delivery beginning at a position in the media specified by said recorded bookmark.

20. The machine readable storage according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

identifying a device type for each of said first and second client devices;

delivering the media to said first client device in a format compatible with said identified device type for said first client device; and.

delivering the media to said second client device in a format compatible with said identified device type for said second client device

21. A method for providing configurable access to media in a media-on-demand system comprising the steps of:

delivering the media to a first client device session through a first communications link;

recording a bookmark specifying a position in the media; and

delivering the media to a second client device session through a second communications link, said delivery to said second client device session beginning at said position specified by said recorded bookmark

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein said first and second client device sessions reside in a single client device.

23. The method according to claim 22 further comprising the steps of:

2 identifying device properties for said single client device; and,
3 delivering the media to said first and second client device sessions in said single
4 client device through said respectively established first and second communications
5 links, the media delivered in a format suitable for said identified device properties.

1 24. The method according to claim 22, wherein the media is stored in a media-on-
2 demand server (MODS) and delivered to said first and said second client device
3 sessions via said first and said second communications link respectively.

1 25. The method according claim 24, wherein said step of delivering the media to said
2 first and second client device sessions via said first and second communications links,
3 comprises:

4 receiving the media from said MODS in an intermediate server;
5 in said intermediate server, converting the media to a format compatible with
6 said identified device properties of said single client device; and
7 delivering said converted media to said first and second client device sessions
8 via said first and second communications links respectively.

9 26. The method according claim 24, further comprising:

2 storing the media in selected ones of a plurality of media-on-demand servers,
3 each MODS in said plurality of media-on-demand servers storing the media in at least
4 one format compatible with a selected device type;
5 selecting a MODS for delivering the media to said single client device, said
6 selected MODS having stored thereon the media in a format compatible with said single
7 client device; and
8 delivering from said selected MODS the media in a format compatible with said
9 single client device.

1 27. The method according to claim 26, wherein said selecting step further
2 comprises:

3 determining if a MODS is available for delivering the media to said single client
4 device in a format compatible with said single client device;

5 if it is determined that a MODS is not available for delivering the media to said
6 single client device in a format compatible with said single client device, selecting a
7 MODS for delivering the media to said single client device, said selected MODS
8 containing the media in a standard format, and converting the media in said standard
1 format to a format compatible with said single client device.